

What is claimed is:

- 1 ~~1.~~ A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:
3 determining a monetary value;
4 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
5 ~~2.~~ purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of ticket
6 numbers after the step of selecting; and
7 ~~3.~~ outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
8 monetary value.

1 2. The method of claim 1, in which the step of determining a monetary value comprises:
2 determining a monetary value based on an amount of change due for a purchase.

1 3. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 creating the ticket record.

1 4. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 selecting a ticket record randomly.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a signal indicating selected ticket numbers.

1 6. The method of claim 5, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 searching a plurality of ticket records to select a ticket record that indicates the selected
3 ticket numbers.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 increasing a total value amount of the selected ticket record in accordance with the
3 fractional lottery ticket value.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 adjusting an amount to round up based on the increased total value amount.

1 9. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 selecting a ticket record having an amount to round up at least as great as the fractional
3 lottery ticket value.

1 10. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 determining a set of ticket records that each have an amount to round up at least as great
3 as the fractional lottery ticket value; and
4 selecting a ticket record from the set of ticket records which has a minimal amount to
5 round up.

1 11. A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 determining an amount of change due for a purchase;
 4 determining a monetary value based on the amount of change due;
 5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
 6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
 7 the step of selecting; and
 8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
 9 monetary value.

1 12. The method of claim 11, in which the step of determining a monetary value comprises:
 2 rounding the amount of change due to a predetermined multiple, thereby generating a
 3 rounded change amount; and
 4 setting the monetary value equal to the rounded change amount.

1 13. The method of claim 12, in which the step of rounding the amount of change due
 2 comprises:
 3 rounding down the amount of change due to a predetermined multiple, thereby generating
 4 a rounded-down change amount.

1 14. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
 2 outputting an offer to exchange a fractional lottery ticket for change due.

1 ~~15.~~ A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
 2 terminal, comprising:

3 determining a monetary value;
4 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
5 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
6 the step of selecting; and
7 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
8 monetary value;
9 determining a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and
10 providing a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

16. A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
terminal, comprising:
3 determining a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and
4 acquiring at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the total
5 value amount.

17. The method of claim 16, in which the step of acquiring is performed at predefined
periods.

18. The method of claim 16, in which the step of acquiring is performed at a predefined time
before a drawing.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising:
2 determining an amount to round up based on the total value amount;

3 and in which the step of acquiring is performed when the amount to round up is below a
4 predetermined value.

1 ~~20.~~ An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 a storage device; and

4 a processor connected to the storage device,

5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and

6 the processor operative with the program to:

7 determine a monetary value;

8 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

9 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of
10 ticket numbers after the step of selecting; and

11 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
12 monetary value.

1 ~~21.~~ A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:

4 determining a monetary value;

5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of ticket
7 numbers after the step of selecting; and

8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
9 monetary value.

1 ~~22.~~ An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 a storage device; and

4 a processor connected to the storage device,

5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and

6 the processor operative with the program to:

7 determine an amount of change due for a purchase;

8 determine a monetary value based on the amount of change due;

9 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

10 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket

11 numbers after the step of selecting; and

12 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the

13 monetary value.

1 ~~23.~~ A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:

4 determining an amount of change due for a purchase;

5 determining a monetary value based on the amount of change due;

6 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

7 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
8 the step of selecting; and
9 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
10 monetary value.

1 24. An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:
3 a storage device; and
4 a processor connected to the storage device,
5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and
6 the processor operative with the program to:
7 determine a monetary value;
8 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
9 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket
10 numbers after the step of selecting; and
11 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
12 monetary value;
13 determine a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and
14 provide a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

1 25. A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:

4 determining a monetary value;
5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
7 the step of selecting; and
8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
9 monetary value;
10 determining a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and
11 providing a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

1 ~~26.~~ An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:
3 a storage device; and
4 a processor connected to the storage device,
5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and
6 the processor operative with the program to:
7 determine a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and
8 acquire at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the
9 total value amount.

1 ~~27.~~ A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal,
3 comprising:
4 determining a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and

- 5 acquiring at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the total
- 6 value amount.

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